

22nd Annual Fall Festival &  
Chili Cook-Off  
Saturday, November 17, 2018  
11:00 AM – 3:00 PM  
Riverplace Shopping Center  
11111 San Jose Blvd.



On behalf of the Mandarin Council of the JaxChamber, I would like to thank you in advance for considering the 22nd Annual Mandarin Council Chili Cook-Off.

One of the main fund-raising vehicles for our Community Support Program each year is the Mandarin Council Fall Festival & Chili Cook-Off, which is slated for Saturday, November 17, 2018, from 11am-3pm, at the Riverplace Shopping Center.

Proceeds from the event help to raise funds for our Community Support Program. This event is a huge success and we have attracted many hundreds of attendees annually. It is truly a community wide event of which we can all be proud. We have been able to award thousands of dollars to local schools and charities. We are excited that Junior Achievement, the Janice Meisel Scholarship Fund, Safe Kids Northeast Florida, and the Mandarin Food Bank have been selected as our non-profit recipients for this year's event.

Here are a few things to keep in mind as you plan for the event:

1. The Chili Cook-Off entry fee is only \$40 (for a chance at the \$500 first prize!).
2. Electricity is **NOT** available as a means to keep your chili hot. **You must bring your own heat source** to keep your chili hot (**chili must be at least 140 degrees to serve, and we will check this**).
3. Plan to arrive @ 10am with 4-5 gallons of chili heated and ready to go. If you cannot heat your chili ahead of time, come early (starting at 9:30am) to start heating your chili. Our fans are hungry so please have your chili hot (**at least 140 degrees**) in time for the 11am start.
4. If you are a sponsor of this event please feel free to bring promotional materials, gift certificates, information, menu's, etc. Chili contestants may **not** sell merchandise at the cook-off, **or promote any business at your chili table**, unless you are **also** an event **sponsor**.
5. We encourage booth decorations as it will draw more attention to your chili. If you have a canopy, you are welcome to bring it, but it can be no larger than 10' x 10'.
6. Judging will begin at 11:30am - we don't want to run out of chili before the judges get a taste, so please bring a minimum of 4 gallons. **NOTE: Judges will not taste your chili if it is not at least 140 degrees.**
7. You must have a complete **list of all ingredients at your station due to potential food allergies**. We do not need your **recipe**, just a list of **ingredients**.
8. We will provide bowls, taste cups, spoons and napkins, as well as a table and 2 chairs.
9. It is your responsibility to provide cheese, onions, chips, crackers, etc...but only if you wish to do so. You will also need to bring a ladle or large spoon to serve your chili.

10. Table locations are assigned so as to place the cookers among the vendors and sponsors. You will be able to park along the curb to unload your vehicle, but please move it to a parking space as quickly as you can. Please park away from the event a little ways so that attendees can park closer to the event.
11. The cook-off goes until 3pm. You must stay and maintain your table even if you run out of chili early. No one is allowed to breakdown their tables prior to 3pm.
12. We will provide signs throughout the event stating the pricing of tickets.  
Please DO NOT TAKE CASH. Direct chili eaters to the front table to purchase tickets.

You will only collect tickets or observe an ARM Band. Pricing is as follows:

All you can taste – Arm Band (\$8.00/adults, \$4.00/kids < 12) Please note "all you can taste" still get **taste cups**, **not** unlimited **bowls** of chili - this has caused problems in the past and has caused some to run out of chili. Each Arm Band Purchase will receive a people's choice ticket.

Chili Bowls – 4 tickets

"People's Choice" Ballot Box will be at your table. We will Tally those tickets up right at 3 PM

“ New” Beer and Wine for the first time ever this year and we will have details at the event.

The intent is for people to pay for an arm band, taste all the chili, and then purchase a bowl of their favorite!

The chili contest will be judged by a panel of local “celebrities”, with a \$500 first prize, and \$200 second prize, and a \$100 "People's Choice" prize. Anyone who gets the "all you can taste" will get a ballot, and anyone else can buy ballots. So encourage everyone who likes your chili to vote for you!

Please remember none of this is possible without our generous sponsors - be sure to thank our sponsors as you see them at the event!

**Looking Forward To Some Great Chili!**

Alan Painter      Chili Cook-Off Chairman  
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